

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-12, 14-16, and 18-31 were pending in the application. Claims 11, 12, 14-16, 18, and 23-31 were allowed. Claims 1-10 were rejected. Claims 19-22 were objected to. Claims 1 and 2 are canceled. Claims 3, 19 and 20 are amended. Claims 3-12, 14-16, and 18-31 are now pending in the application. Claims 11, 19, and 20 are the independent claims. Reconsideration of the amended application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Liu et al. The Examiner also rejected claims 6-10 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Liu et al., and further in view of Zur. The Examiner also allowed claims 11, 12, 14-16, 18, and 23-31, and objected to claims 19-22, but acknowledged that these latter claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all elements of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Objected claim 20 is rewritten in independent form, including all the elements of independent claim 1 and intervening claim 2, which are canceled. Claims 21 and 22 depend from claim 20. Therefore, the objection to claims 20-22 should be withdrawn.

Objected claim 19 is rewritten in independent form, including all the elements of independent claim 1, which is canceled. Therefore, the objection to claim 19 should be withdrawn.

Rejected claim 3 is amended to depend from allowable claim 19. Claims 4-10 depend from claim 3. Therefore, the rejection of claims 3-10 should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that all objections and rejections have been overcome.  
It is therefore requested that the Amendment be entered, the claims allowed, and the case passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

January 30, 2004

Date

TMC:lep



Thomas M. Champagne  
Registration No. 36,478  
IP STRATEGIES, P.C.  
1730 N Lynn Street  
Suite 500  
Arlington, Virginia 22209  
(703) 248-9220  
(703) 248-9244 fax